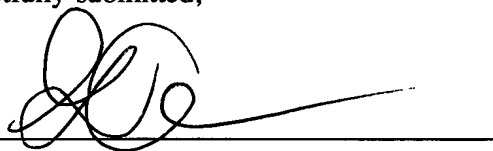


**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to the claims be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Date June 8, 2001

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**MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS:**

3. (Amended) A steel wire according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** **claim 1**, wherein said polymer is a thermoplastic polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate and polyethylene naphthenate.
5. (Amended) A steel wire according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** **claim 1**, wherein said coloring agent is organic.
6. (Amended) A steel wire according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** **claim 1**, wherein said intermediate coating is a metallic coating such as a copper coating, a copper alloy coating, a zinc coating, a zinc alloy coating, a nickel coating, a nickel alloy, a tin coating or a tin alloy coating.
7. (Amended) A steel wire according to **[any one of claims 1 to 5]** **claim 1**, wherein said intermediate coating is a coating such as a cooper-tin sulfate coating or a copper-sulfate coating.
10. (Amended) A method according to claim 8 **[or 9]**, said method further comprising the step of coloring said polymer.
11. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of claims 8 to 10]** **claim 8**, wherein said giving of a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating is done by wet drawing the coated steel wire.
12. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of claims 8 to 10]** **claim 8**, wherein said further coating with a polymer is done by an extrusion process.